

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yasuki Motozawa; Takahiro Kamei; Yasushi Kawamura

Assignee: Honda Giken Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha

Title: Vehicle Occupant Protection Apparatus

Application No.: 10/600,376 Filing Date: June 20, 2003

Examiner: Unassigned Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Docket No.: AB-1174-1D US

Irvine, California October 9, 2003

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Sir:

It is requested that the information identified in this statement be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the above-identified application. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

## Enclosed with this statement are the following:

- Form PTO-1449 (Substitute). The Examiner is requested to initial the form and return it to the undersigned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.
- A copy of each cited document as required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (except where otherwise indicated for a specific citation).

Complete copies are not submitted of U.S. applications per 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), and copies are not submitted of documents already cited or submitted in a parent application from which benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed per 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d). If any of the cited/submitted documents is in a foreign language, a concise explanation of relevancy is provided pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3). For foreign language documents cited in a search report by a foreign patent office, the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance is satisfied by the submission herewith of an English language version of the search report. 57 F.R. 2021 (1/17/92). If a written

LAW OFFICES OF MacPherson, Kwok, Chen & Heid LLP 1762 Technology Drive Suite 226 San Jose, CA 95110 Telephone (408) 392-9520 English-language translation of a non-English language document, or portion thereof, is within the possession, custody or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in §1.56(c), a copy of the translation accompanies this statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.98(c).

## This statement should be considered because:

- × This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because:
  - It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date; (1) -- OR --
  - It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage; (2) -- OR --
  - It is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the (3) merits,

-- OR --

It is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action after the (4) filing of an RCE

whichever occurs last.

- Although it may not qualify under subsection (b), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (c) because:
  - It is being filed before the mailing date of a FINAL Office Action and (1) before a Notice of Allowance or another action closing prosecution (whichever occurs first)
    - -- AND (check at least one of the following) --
  - It is accompanied by the \$180 fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) (1) -- OR --
  - It is accompanied by a CERTIFICATION as set forth in 37 C.F.R. (2) §1.97(e)
- Although it may not qualify under subsection (b) or (c), this statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (d) because:
  - It is accompanied by a CERTIFICATION as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e);

-- AND --

It is accompanied by a STATEMENT TO ACCEPT INFORMATION (2) DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d);

-- AND --

It is accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p); (3)

-- AND --

(4) The Issue Fee has not been paid prior to the submission.

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X Fee Authorization. Applicants deem that no fees are required at this time. However, should it be determined that a fee is required, please charge underpayment of any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. <u>50-2257</u>. A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop DD, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 9, 2003.

Adriane Giberson

1019103

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

David S. Park

Attorney for Applicants

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*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name		Class	Subclass	Filing I		
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	AB	5,249,826	10/05/1993	Bell, Lon	-	280	777			
	AC	5,279,227	01/18/1994	Nishizawa, Muneo		102	274			
	AD	5,626,203	05/06/1997	Habib, Mostafa S.		180	274			
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	AH	6,116,561	09/12/2000	Christopher, Hugh	Christopher, Hugh C.		429	1 _		
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	AN	7-101354	04/18/95	Japan				Abstract	X	
	AO	2000-62556	02/29/00	Japan				Abstract	X	
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		OTHER /	ART (Including A	Author, Title, Date, Per	rtiner	it Pages, Et	(c.)			
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.										

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	AK				—					
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